

Application No. 09/619,123  
Filed: July 19, 2000  
TC Art Unit: 3737  
Confirmation No.: 1997

REMARKS

Claims 75-77 and 87-94 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Daigle in view of Shinomura and Mallart. Claims 78-80, 82, 84 and 85 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daigle in view of Shinomura and Mallart, and further in view of Blackwell.

The Shinomura reference is relied upon for teaching a weight of ten pounds or less. However, Shinomura fails to describe in any detail the beamforming device used in the operation of the device in Fig. 3. Shinomura is silent as to whether the beamformer has more or less than 10 channels. Shinomura certainly fails to describe a beamformer having either 32 or 64 channels as recited in claims 78 and 87, respectively. The Mallart, Cannon, Blackwell and Dubil references are also silent as to how to implement a beamforming ultrasound system having these numbers of channels and yet the reduced weight as set forth in the claims and at the same time the processing capability for scan conversion/Doppler processing for the images created by such a system.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

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WEINGARTEN, SCHURGIN,  
GACNERIN & LEBOVICI LLP  
TEL. (617) 542-2290  
FAX. (617) 451-0313

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The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

CHIANG ET AL.

By:   
Thomas O. Hoover  
Registration No. 32,470  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
WEINGARTEN, SCHURGIN,  
GAGNEBIN & LEOVICI LLP  
Ten Post Office Square  
Boston, MA 02109  
Telephone: (617) 542-2290  
Telecopier: (617) 451-0313

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WEINGARTEN, SCHURGIN,  
GAGNEBIN & LEOVICI LLP  
TEL. (617) 542-2290  
FAX. (617) 451-0313